## In the Specification:

Please amend paragraph 30 to read as follows:

[0030] By way of example, the time code and the read time data sets are time-locked during the time period associated with the second and third records of table 36, wherein the bottommost record is the first record and the records are numbered in an ascending fashion such that the topmost record is the sixth record, because the read time interval, Δtr 44 between these records is approximately equal to the time code interval Δtc 46 associated with these records. In contrast, the data sets are not time-locked during the time period associated with the fourth record 38 because the corresponding read time interval Δtr 44 and time code interval Δtc 46 are not approximately equal. Specifically, a time code 40 associated with the fourth record 38 is earlier than the time code 42 of the previous, third record 38 thereby causing the read time interval 44 and time code interval 46 associated with the fourth record to be mismatched or unequal. The read time interval 44 is approximately equal to the corresponding time code interval 46 for the fifth and sixth records such that the data sets are again time locked time-locked.

Please amend paragraphs 34-37 as follows:

[0034] Referring also to FIG. 4B which aligns with FIG. 4A at connection points A, B, C and D, if the SID values match, i.e.,  $SID_{test} = SID_1$ , then the time code,  $tc_1$ , is associated with the same broadcast program as  $tc_{test}$  such that  $tc_1$  may be used to validate  $tc_{test}$ . As a result, the method 50 continues at a step 68 where time interval data is calculated. More particularly, at the step 68, an

interval denoted  $\Delta tc$  between the time codes,  $tc_{test}$  and  $tc_1$ , is calculated and an interval denoted  $\Delta tr$  between a read time denoted  $tr_{test}$  that corresponds with the time code  $tc_{test}$  and a read time denoted  $tr_{test}$   $tr_1$  that corresponds with  $tc_1$ . [0035] Next, at a step 70, the interval  $\Delta tr$  is compared to the interval  $\Delta tc$ . If the interval  $\Delta tc$  is equal to the interval  $\Delta tr$ , within an allowable tolerance (TOL), i.e.,  $\Delta tc = \Delta tr \pm TOL$   $\Delta tr - TOL < \Delta tc < \Delta tr + TOL$ , then both  $\Delta tc_{test}$  and  $\Delta tc_1$  are valid and are marked valid at a step 72. For example, the time codes  $\Delta tc_{test}$  and  $\Delta tc_1$  and  $\Delta tc_1$  may be marked valid by setting a validity flag associated with each value. Alternatively, any data association method may be used to indicate that the values  $\Delta tc_{test}$  and  $\Delta tc_1$  and  $\Delta tc_1$  and  $\Delta tc_1$  and  $\Delta tc_1$  are valid.

[0036] If instead the interval  $\Delta tc$  is not equal to the interval  $\Delta tr$ , within an allowable tolerance (TOL), i.e.,  $\Delta tc \neq \Delta tr \pm TOL$   $\Delta tc > \Delta tr + TOL$  or  $\Delta tc < \Delta tr = TOL$ , then one or both of  $\Delta tc_{test}$  and  $\Delta tc_1$  are invalid and the method branches back to the step 60 and the steps subsequent thereto, as described above. Likewise, after the values  $\Delta tc_{test}$  and  $\Delta tc_1$  have been marked valid at the step 72, the method branches back to the step 60.

[0037] As described above, if, at the step 62, COUNTER2 is greater than COUNTER1, then all of the time codes in the stack have been compared to Ate<sub>4</sub> \(\Delta\text{ctest}\) and the method 50 continues at the step 74 where the processor 32 determines whether tc<sub>test</sub> has been validated by the portion of the method 50 including the steps 60-72. If tc<sub>test</sub> has not been validated, thereby indicating that tc<sub>test</sub> is erroneous, then the method continues at the step 76 where tc<sub>test</sub> is corrected. Specifically, at the step 76, SID<sub>test</sub> is compared to an SID, denoted SID<sub>previous</sub>, that corresponds to the most recently validated time code denoted

tcprevious. The value of tcprevious is equal to the value of the time code that was most recently removed from the stack for processing by the method 50 and that was validated during the most recent of the previous iterations of the method 50. If the SID values are equal, i.e.,  $SID_{test} = tc_{previous}$  thereby indicating that the time codes,  $tc_{test}$  and  $tc_{previous}$ , were extracted from the same broadcast program, then a read time interval  $\Delta tr_{previous}$  between a read time denoted  $tr_{previous}$  that corresponds to the time code,  $tc_{previous}$ , and the read time,  $tr_{test}$ , that corresponds to the time code  $tc_{test}$  is calculated at a step 78. At the step 78, the read time interval  $\Delta tr_{previous}$  is also added to the value of  $tc_{previous}$  to obtain a corrected value for the time code  $tc_{test}$  which is subsequently stored in a list of validated time codes, at a step 80, for later retrieval and usage in calculating corrected time codes as necessary. After storing the value of  $tc_{test}$ , the method branches back to the step 54 where the next time code value is extracted from the bottommost position in the stack and the method continues at the steps subsequent thereto as described above.